

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 and 34-52 were previously canceled. Claims 22-25, 28-29 and 32 have been amended. Claim 26 has been canceled. Claims 53-58 have been added. Accordingly, claims 22-25, 27-33 and 53-58 are pending. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

As requested by the Examiner, FIG. 1 has been amended to include a "Prior Art" designation. A complete set of formal drawings is being submitted herewith.

Claims 22 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The claims have been amended to obviate this rejection. Specifically, claim 22 has been amended to recite "to simultaneously initiate a common integration period," and claim 32 has been amended to remove the phrase "a specified amount."

Claims 23-33 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Not. 6,859,227 to Anderson et al. ("Anderson"). The rejection is traversed.

In rejecting each of claims 23-33, with respect to the claim element "preventing said separated storage node from integrating charge during a time other than during said integration period," the Office Action refers to a specific passage in the Anderson teachings. The relevant portions of that passage, (col. 4, lines 23-28) however, are not present in the Provisional Application from which the Anderson patent claims priority. Accordingly, that passage has an effective date of April 18, 2000. Each of the currently pending claims in the present application, on the other hand, are fully supported by the February 23, 2000 provisional filing date. Thus, without commenting on the substance of the cited Anderson passage, Applicants respectfully point out that the teaching is not prior art under any provision of 35 USC 102. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. According, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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